Warped Opera

戯武神曲

one

By Ueda Hiroshi

目次

世界実是大戯台……三

看得京劇真面目……四十七

面対現実抱決心……七十九

新生活要開始啦……百十一

梨園学芸門天下……百四十三

幕間戯……七十八、百十、百四十二

SCANLATION:
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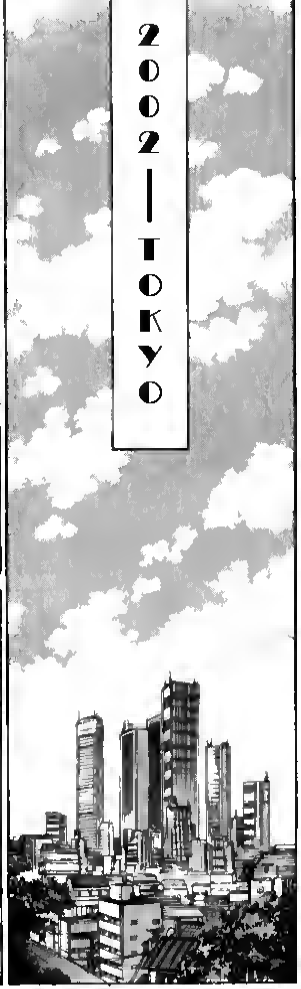
IN A
TURBULENT
ERA,
ON A
COLOREFUL
STAGE,

THIS IS
A STORY OF
DETERMINATIONS.

武神戯曲

Act One:
The World is a Large Stage

*JII-CHAN = GRANDPA



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SFX: TAN!

SFX TAN! TAN! TAN!
YOU'RE GETTING BETTER, TATSUAKI
REALLY? CAN I BE ON STAGE NOW?
FU

"BEIJING OPERA" WAS CALLED "PEKING OPERA"

NO DOUBT !!
DO YOU LIKE THE BEIJING OPERA ?
TATSUAKI .
PI GE E
IN THE OLD DAYS, I .
I HAVE SAID FOR MANY TIMES THAT I AM DREAMING TO BECOME A BEIJING OPERA PERFORMER LIKE JII-CHAN IN THE OLD DAY

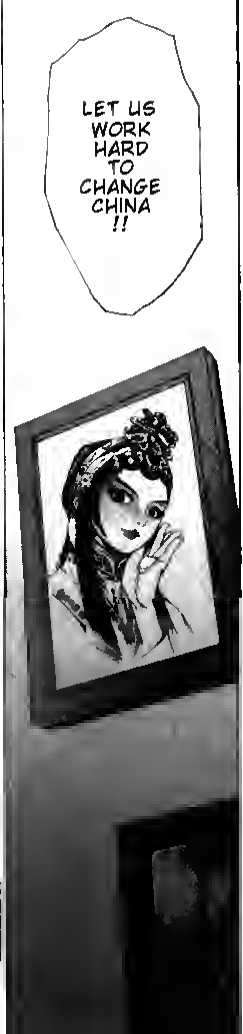
*KAA-SAN - MOM

**"DAN" IN CHINESE REFERS TO GENERAL FEMALE ROLES IN BEIJING OPERA

**"SHIFU" IN CHINESE REFERS TO ONE'S MENTORS OTHER THAN SCHOOL TEACHERS OR PROFESSORS

BEFORE I RAN FOR MY LIFE, I'D BEEN MAKING MY NAME TO BE A B-OPERA PERFORMER.
WELL

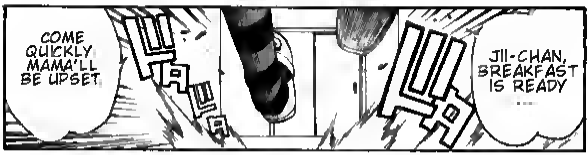
IF I CAN SEE MEI-SHIFU TODAY, I WANT TO BEG FOR PARDONS

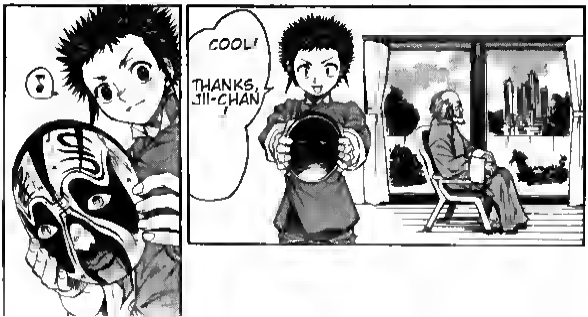

LET US WORK HARD TO CHANGE CHINA !!

ばっ!
I DON'T GET IT DOES JII-CHAN REALLY WANT TO SEE MEI-SAN !?
YE YES
MEI SHI FU ...
BUT, MEI -SHIFU
DON'T WORRY! I'LL MAKE SURE THAT
THERE WILL BE A REUNION WITH MEI-SAN !!

* "KOUU" IN JAPANESE REFERS TO "XIANG YU" IN CHINESE KOUU/XIANG YU, THE CONQUEROR, WAS A HISTORICAL WARLORD PRIOR TO HAN DYNASTY (206BC - 220AD)

KEPT SINCE THAT PERIOD
OK
THAT KOUU MASK WILL BE YOUR RETURN GIFT
EEH?
IS THAT AN IMPORTANT ITEM !?
IT WAS A GIFT FROM MEI-SHIFU. PRECISELY, A SOUVENIR FROM ONE OF HIS PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS IN JAPAN IN 1924


COME QUICKLY MAMA'LL BE UPSET
JII-CHAN, BREAKFAST IS READY


COOL!
THANKS, JII-CHAN

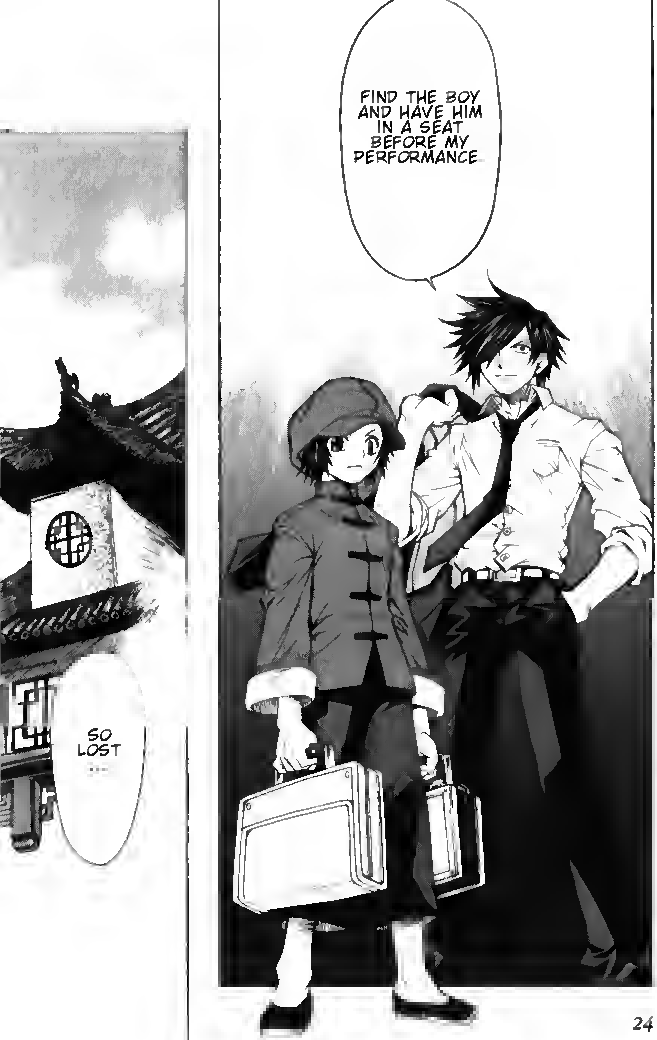
HI, JII-CHAN !!
JII-CHAN, BREEEEAK-FAAAAST !!!
THE BREAK-FAST IS READY

OOPS

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

THAT'S MINE.

THA
THANKS
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
WHERE DID YOU GO, HONGLAN?
楼海北
THERE IS A WEIRD BOY
I THINK HE IS JAPANESE
A JAPANESE KID IS HERE ALONE?
THAT IS RARE
NOT QUITE TODAY, MANY JAPANESE FINANCIAL BENEFACTORS WILL ATTEND THE ENGAGEMENT MANY OF THEM SHOULD BRING THEIR CHILDREN WITH THEM
IT'S OUR BUSINESS NOW


SO LOST ...
FIND THE BOY AND HAVE HIM IN A SEAT BEFORE MY PERFORMANCE

...
I HEARD JII CHAN ...
DA
I PUT ON KOUU'S MASK. THEN I AM OUTSIDE.
JUST MOMENTS AGO, I WAS IN JII-CHAN'S ROOM ...
WHERE IS THIS PLACE?

DON
WHERE DID JII-CHAN GO ...

the story of beijing opera

うえだ ひろし
上田 宏
UEDA HIROSHI

To be Continued

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!!!
AH
PARDON ME
WHAT !?
WHOA !!
HI !! LET GO OF ME !!

DON'T SAY THAT, TSUBAKI

WATCHING PEKING OPERA IS THE BEST WAY TO UNDERSTAND CHINESE PEOPLE

PUU

BORING

*PEKING OPERA = BEIJING OPERA

THIS IS THE SAME BUILDING ON JII-CHAN'S PICTURE THAT IS HUNG IN HIS ROOM

楼海北

*ON THE PLATE "NORTH SEA THEATRE"

W.C.!

THE BETTER ONE UNDERSTANDS ONE'S COUNTERPARTS, THE GREATER FRIENDSHIP THERE WILL BE

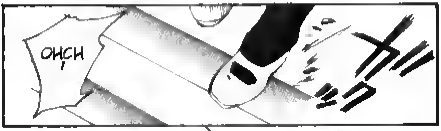
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I DON'T LIKE CHINA AT ALL !!

HEH! I REALLY WANT TO GO BACK TO JAPAN
tseka tseka tseka tseka

IT'S ALMOST A YEAR I HAVEN'T MADE MORE THAN ONE FRIEND
YUAN IS SOOOO OLD ....
AND

HUH?
ARE YOU OK?


OHCH

AH

OOPS

ARE YOU HURT?

WHOA JAPANESE

This kid helped me

Miss, are you OK?

OK

*They are talking in Chinese

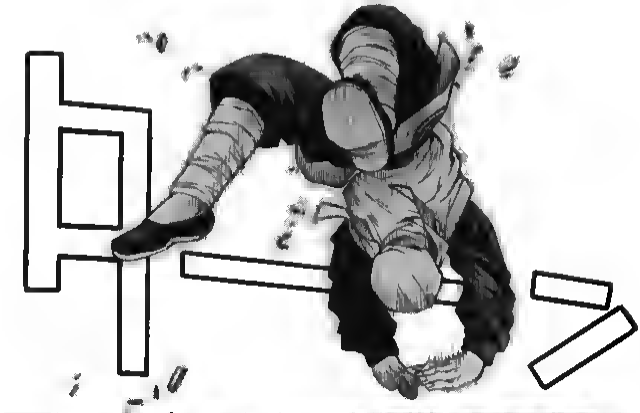
?

I was asked to have this kid-sama in a boxed seat

Are you a friend of the Miss?

YOU HELPED ME... THANK YOU

*PEKING IS THE OLD NAME OF BEIJING.



CHAN
CHAN
TAN
TAN
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!!

TAN

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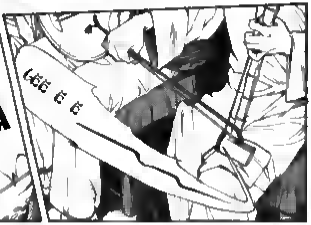

EEEEE

THIS IS
BEIJING OPERA !!
覇王
"THE CON-QUER-ER" !!
好
BRAVO
好
BRAVO

タンタタン
タタタン
タンタタン
ヒュッ
タンタタン
タンタタン

THIS IS MORE SPECTACULAR THAN WHAT WAS ON THE PICTURES
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME TO HEAR SUCH A TRANSPARENT VOICE
THIS IS A REAL BEIJING OPERA !!
ARE YOU BORED, TOO ?
HMM — SO BORING
HUH ?? WHAT !?

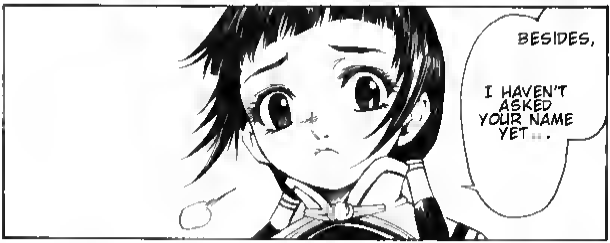
WHAT AM I LOOKING AT? IS THIS GUY CRYING?

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND A WORD OF CHINESE, BUT YOU ARE SO TOUCHED ?
IT MUST BE STAR POWER !
TO DRY YOUR EYES
A MAN SHOULD NOT SHOW TEARS
EH ?
THERE
IS THAT PERSON A STAR ?
EVERY-BODY SAYS SO
THE REAL NAME IS
MEI LAN FANG .

BA!
WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING !?

AH YA

MEI
MEI SHI FU !?


BESIDES,
I HAVEN'T ASKED YOUR NAME YET...

オォ——ッ
You are here, too? For everybody's luck, it was a sold out
Today's show completely counted on peoples favors

NO DOUBT! MEI-SHIFU IS THE BEST
HOWEVER, TODAY'S KOUJI WAS A PERFECT MATCH
NOWHERE TO FIND A BETTER KOUJI THAN JIN SHAOSHAN -SENSEI
MEI-SAN!!
HE IS THAT JAPANESE!!

PLEASE! I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL MEI-SAN !!

LET ME SEE MEI-SAN !!

You, little bug, didn't you hear me "no trespass" !?

CHCH !

!

Is that right?

Didn't I hear that

Don't be silly to add more work on me

He's the young master of Makishima family

it would be the young mistress to do us a favor?

!?

AH

WHO ARE YOU !?

STOP !!

*Conversations are in Chinese

PA
TSE
UM
...
ARE YOU A GIRL ?
KA
我

是个男的
AM A MALE!
EH
No way! No trespass!
It's just a kid's quarrel
Don't be stupid!
Hongian's Mei-sensei's private pupil
His fighting skills outperform most of action performers. It's a huge deal when there is a fight!
But, but,
the other kid is doing fine
SAY YOU ARE JAPANESE. HOW COME ARE YOUR MOVES AS YOU WERE TRAINED IN PEKING OPERA!?
WHERE DID YOU LEARN!? WHO IS YOUR SHIFU!?

MEI SHI FU !!

THOSE ARE WHAT I AM ALSO INTERESTED IN

Huh ?

Real Realy ?

MEI

IS HE MEI-SAN ?

WASN'T THE ONE ON STAGE A WOMAN ?

HA, HA, HA

Are you kidding, little one?

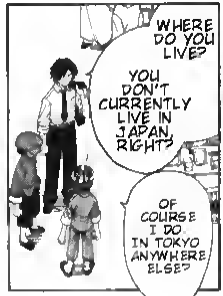
UM

MEI-SAN!! JII-CHAN REALLY WANTS TO MEET YOU !!
JII-CHAN ?

I SEE I WONDER IF HE IS YOUR SHIFU

MEI-SHIFU PERFORMS FEMALE ROLES, BUT HE'S A MAN.
YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT PEKING'S NUMBER ONE "DAN" YOU ARE JAPANESE ANYWAY.
DON'T SPEAK IN THAT WAY, HONGLAN

NO. I WILL MEET HIM.
MEI-SHIFU, IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE NEVER MIND IT !!


WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
YOU DON'T CURRENTLY LIVE IN JAPAN, RIGHT?
OF COURSE I DO IN TOKYO ANYWHERE ELSE?

MEI SHIFU !!
IS THAT A PROMISE !?

*"SHOUNEN" IN JAPANESE REFERS TO YOUNG MALES

the story of beijing opera

うえだ ひろし
上田 宏
UEDA HIROSHI

To be Continued

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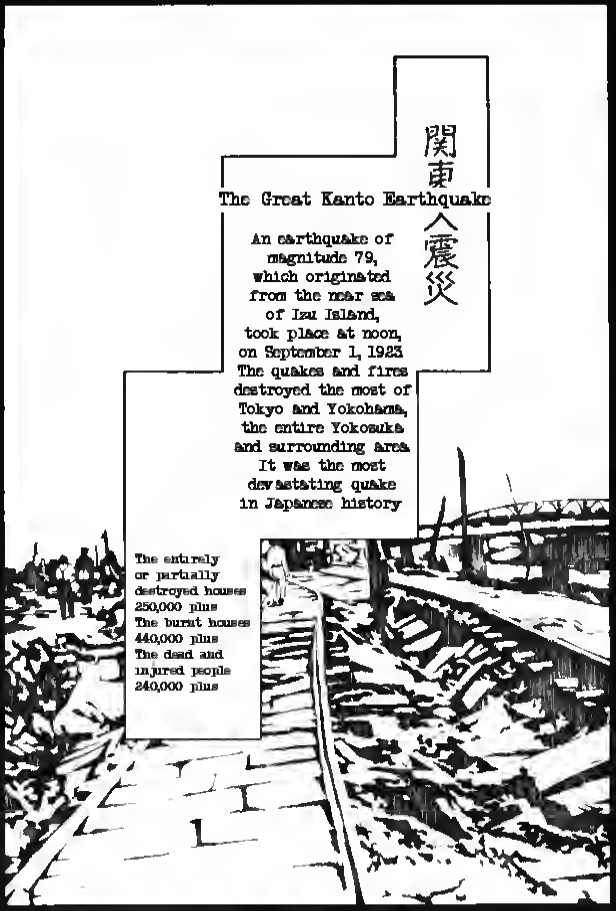

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THE FIGURES MAY BE DIFFERENT ON INTERNET

Act Two
The Real Face of B-Opera
TRANSLATOR FIFAY
EDITOR FIFAY
SCANNER FIFAY
JOIN US AT
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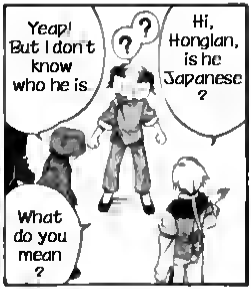
THE GREAT KANTO EARTH QUAKE ?
楼海北
TAN
MEI SENSEI

Hi, Little Yuan
You're too late!
I am a VIP guest, but came late due to many petty things
Sorry
TA TA
It's long finished
Ah! What!
Huh!?
A WEIRD FOREIGNER
SHIT!
I missed not only Mei-sensei's performance, but also "Farewell My Concubine"

He kept asking Mei-sensei to meet his Jii-chan in Tokyo.
Tokyo? Aren't there earthquakes all over there!?


Hi, Honglan, is he Japanese?
Yeap! But I don't know who he is.
What do you mean?

YEAH, WHAT IS UP?
HELLO, ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THE GREAT KANTO EARTHQUAKE, THE DEVASTATING DISASTER?

I DON'T KNOW ANY OLD TALES OF TOKYO, BUT THIS ONE FOR SURE TOOK PLACE FOUR DAYS AGO!

WAS THE GREAT KANTO EARTHQUAKE AN OLD TALE THAT HAPPENED SEVERAL DECADES AGO?

SEPTEMBER 5TH OF YEAR 1923 !
TODAY IS ——
THIS IS REPUBLIC CHINA.
PEKING !
YOUR HOMETOWN TOKYO OF JAPAN IS ON THE OTHER SHORE OF THE SEA.

TODAY IS REALLY ...

I JUST LEFT JII-CHAN'S ROOM
KU LU
ARE YOU ALL PULLING MY LEGS ?

HA, HA HA, ...

YEAR 2002 !!

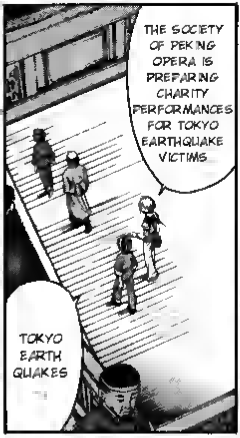
PO
INTERESTING !!
A HARDCORE NUT !
DO I HAVE A HEARING PROBLEM ?

DON'T WORRY JAPANESE SHOUNEN !!
EERIE
I'LL TAKE THE FULL RESPON-SIBILITY.

I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE MEI-SAN !!
OK! SHALL WE LEAVE ?
A SECOND!
SURE THAT WILL BE VERY HELPFUL
IS IT OK IF I LOOK AFTER HIM FOR A WHILE?

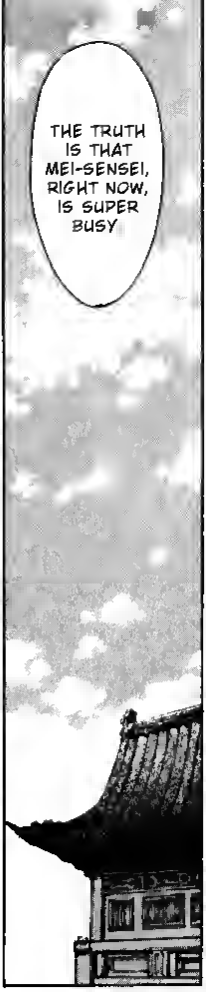
IT WOULD BE SO HARD IF ONE HAS TO OFTEN DEAL WITH SUCH FANS.
SHIFU ?
HOW ABOUT THE MEETING WITH JII-CHAN ?
RELAX.
MEI-SENSEI IS MY FRIEND. YOU CAN SEE HIM AT ANY TIME YOU WANT.
SUCH BIG FUZZ !
THAT MASK ...
IMPOSSIBLE.
LET'S GO ON.
MEI SHIFU !!
UM
AH AH

LOOK AT YOU
YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT, DO YOU?
.....


THE SOCIETY OF PEKING OPERA IS PREPARING CHARITY PERFORMANCES FOR TOKYO EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS.
TOKYO EARTH QUAKES

TOKYO'S IZUMI TATSUAKI, HUH?
I'LL FIND SOME INFORMATION FROM THE JAPANESE EMBASSY.
HUH ?

AH, BY THE WAY, I HAVEN'T ASKED YOUR NAME YET.
I AM YUAN. I AM 15, AND YOU?
IZUMI TATSUAKI. I'M 10.


THE TRUTH IS THAT MEI-SENSEI, RIGHT NOW, IS SUPER BUSY

NOW, ALLOW ME, A LOCAL RESIDENT OF PEKING TO SHOW YOU HOW GRAND PEKING IS

WAIT A SECOND!

WHAT TATSUAKI TALKED CAN WAIT. WE HAVE ANOTHER AGENDA THAT CAN'T WAIT.

THAT'S WHY WE ARE HERE TO LINK THEM TOGETHER

REPUBLIC CHINA? PEKING? WHATEVER! I DON'T UNDERSTAND AT ALL!!

TA

LOOK!
hum
THIS IS THE SCENERY OF PEKING.
WHOA
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE TOKYO?
THE TOKYO TOWER AND SKYSCRAPERS IN SHINJYUKU ARE GONE
TOKYO TOWER?
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
AS I SAID, THIS IS NOT TOKYO
BUT, JII-CHAN IS....

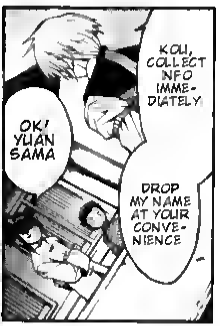
TSEKI TSEKI
LET ME GO !!
UM, THIS IS A BIT UNEXPECTED

WHERE DID JII-CHAN GO
—
!?
HI, DANGEROUS !! YOU ARE GOING TO FALL !!

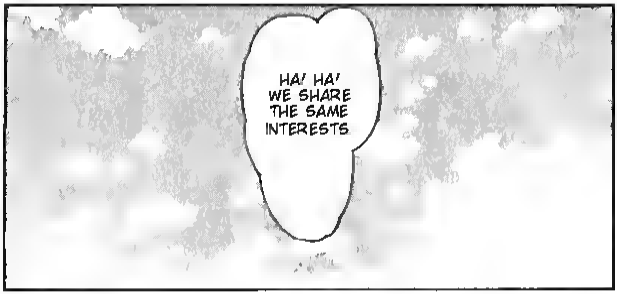
I GOT IT! I AM GOING TO CHECK OUT THE INFORMATION FOR YOU RIGHT AWAY

ガッ!
!

HOW'S THAT? ARE YOU OK WITH IT?


KOU, COLLECT INFO IMMEDIATELY.
OK! YUAN SAMA
DROP MY NAME AT YOUR CONVENIENCE

THANK YOU, YUAN!!

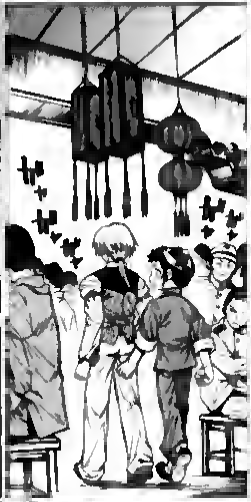


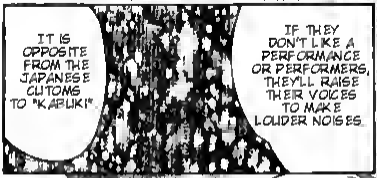
**"SANZATSU" IS MADE OF SUGARCOATED CRABAPPLES

*In Chinese

*ON PLATE: "SOUTH SEA THEATRE"

*SHIMI IN CHINESE REFERS TO PEKING OPERA FANATICS



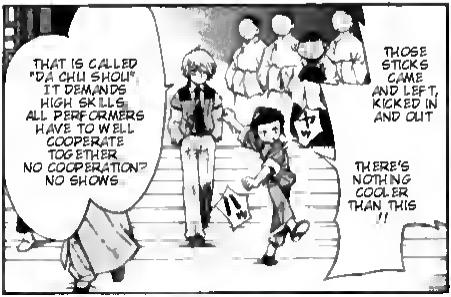


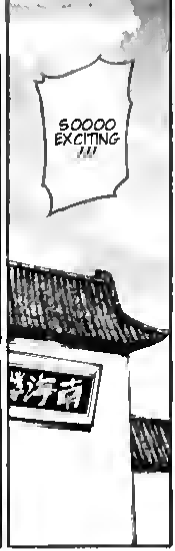
*KABUKI - A JAPANESE TRADITIONAL PERFORMANCE

PROGRAM
TALE OF A WHITE SNAKE

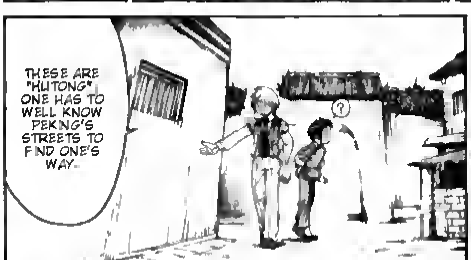
SFX. TAN
SHU
PON
KAN
SFX. TA, TAN

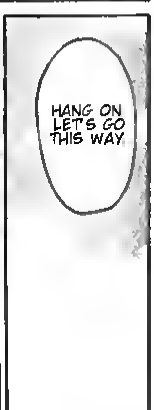
SFX. TA, TAN, TA, TAN
PA
N
PIN
TSEEE
PIN
PON





"DA CHU SHOU" IS A CHINESE TERM





"HUTONG" IN CHINESE ARE NARROW ALLEYWAYS BETWEEN HOUSING COMPOUNDS

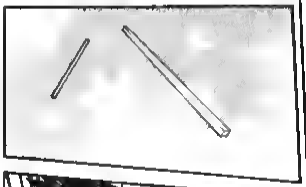
A girl has NOTHING to do with Peking Opera !!
Why? Your idea is so out of date!

A SPECIALTY IN HUTONG
NO NEED FOR TICKET OFFICE. THESE ARE "AMATEUR SHIMI" THEY COME TOGETHER TO ENTERTAIN THEMSELVES.
WA WA

SO COOL!
I WANT TO JOIN THEM
What is it?

ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BEAT A GIRL?
Hi! don't talk back!!
Ah Yah
Go back to your Japan!
A Japanese ?
What did the bug say?
Hi, THIS STICK IS FLYING LIKE ONES ON STAGE !!
TSEN
Don't be hypo-critical!
GA

PAN
YUAN, HOLD MY MASK
FUUN
FU UN
Me too Try Mine !
You, Jerk !



!!
PON
PON

……

It must be a coincidence, right?

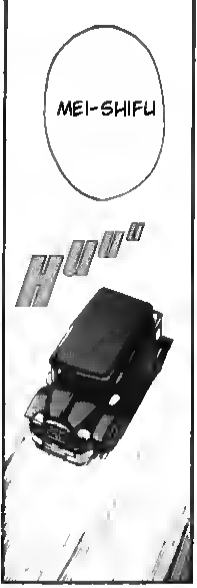
PAN
PAN

THIS IS "DA CHU SHOU"!! IT'S NEVER BEEN REHEARSED!!

PAN
PAN
PAN
PAN
PAN

I CAN DO IT!
Ha!
Stunning !!
Dan
Dan
Daa
Dan
Listen, Japanese, this turn is going to be an one on three~
?
MEI-SENSE!
Hi, Damned cool!
PAN
PAN
PAN
PAN
PAN
PAN
Ah, Amazing
YOU'RE MISSING HUGE FUN OF THIS SCENE YOU'LL REGRET!

AH, SORRY, CAN YOU REPEAT IT, PLEASE?
DID YOU HEAR THE SCHEDULE OF THE NEXT PERFORMANCE?


MEI-SHIFU
HUUU

I MIGHT'VE WRITTEN THOSE CHARACTERS ON THE MASK BUT...
OKAY...
EVERY-THING IS ARRANGED LIKE LAST TIME !!

See you later !!

Come on! You can t leave now Aren t we friends !?
Sorry, guys,
We have no more time for playing

Jeez!
How can a Japanese so strong ?

WHAT IS ON THE EARTH? THIS IS ...
WHAT'S UP?
HERE, YOUR MASK HUH?
WE'LL BE BACK
UM, THANK YOU!
MEI LANFANG, PUBLIC CHARITY PERFORMANCE, JAPAN, 1924!?
HOW CAN IT BE!? PERHAPS, THE WORDS TATSUAKI SAID ...

the story of beijing opera

うえだ ひろし
上田 宏
UEDA HIROSHI

To be Continued

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Intermission Play One

The establishment of Peking Opera

There was a long history of folk operas in China. Those folk operas were as colorful as the grand Middle Kingdom. Two hundred years ago, the rulers of Qing Dynasty summoned renowned performers from all over China to Peking. Various folk operas met and united. The union delivered the birth of Peking Opera, which was cradled by commoners.

The Story of Beijing Opera took place in 1920's, the beginning of the Beijing Opera's prime of life.

Beijing Opera performers are required to carry out stories by singing and dancing. There are very detailed requirements on how to sing, recite, act and pose etc. The elegance and the charm of Beijing Opera are the ultimate results of many performers' experiments, failures and successes.

ACT THREE

Determinations for the Reality

❖ PROGRAM INTRODUCTION - FAREWELL MY CONCUBINE

IN THE END OF QIN DYNASTY, THE KING OF CHU - KOUJI WAS SURROUNDED BY HAN ARMY. HIS BELOVED WIFE GUKI WAS DRINKING WITH HIM. WHEN GUKI REALIZED HOW BAD THE SITUATION WAS, SHE STARTED DANCING WITH A SWORD AND COMMITTED SUICIDE IN THE END. IN THE OPERA, THE LYRICS, THE LINES, MELODIES AND DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY FOR BOTH GUKI AND KOUJI WERE TRAGIC, YET FEISTY AND FRESH, YET OPULENT. THE ROLE OF GUKI WAS A FLAGSHIP ROLE OF MEI LANFANG.

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Translator : Fifay
Editor : Shichan
Quality Control : Fifay & Rem

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SFX : TAN
PAN
BI
BI
BI
HYUN
HYUN
YUAN'S MANSION
SFX : BI!

HOW IS IT, JII-CHAN?

JII-CHAN DIDN'T GET ...

YUAN AND I WENT FOR "TALE OF A WHITE SNAKE" THAT WAS SO AMAZING
I, ESPECIALLY, LIKE THAT
" DA CHU SHOU"
HAH
SFX | SH
THOSE STICKS ...
KATA
TO SEE MEI-SAN'S PERFORMANCE THIS TIME

SFX: PUUN

YOU THROW IT UP ...

PON

PAN

YOU KICK IT AWAY AND IT COMES BACK ...

GEE, PLAY WITH ONESELF CANNOT GET THAT ATMOSPHERE

GOTCHA!

PAN

.....

SFX- PAAAN!

!!

HAH YAH!

パァァン!

GOOD DAY, TATSUAKI

I AM YAN

PUUUN

PAN

PAN

GOOD!

SFX : SHUUN

I LEARNT A BIT OF PEKING OPERA BEFORE

EH!! CAN YAN-SAN ALSO DO IT?

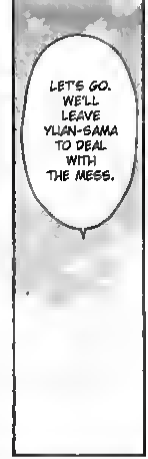
I CAN BE YOUR PARTNER TO PRACTICE THROW AND CATCH

I HEARD ABOUT YOUR "DA CHU SHOU" IN "HU TONG".

I MISSED IT.

REALLY !?
THEN, YAN-SAN, SHOW ME YOUR CRAFT !
POOH
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE IT AS SHE IS SO CONFIDENT!!
わく わく
AH HA!!
ペシィ!
SFX : PAN!
UM ...
I CAN FEEL THE AGES WHEN LOOKING AT BAD WOOD AND CUMULATED DUSTS
YEARS DEFINITELY MADE MARKS ON THE THING
BUT, WHY WOULD IT BE SIGNED IN THE NEXT YEAR?
.....

WHAT THE HECK !!!
KATAN!!
YUIAN-SAMA, ARE YOU HURT?
SORRY, YUIAN !!!
TATSUAKI, DO YOU WANT TO GO OUT?
YUIAN DOESN'T ALLOW ME TO GO OUT ALONE
AH, I CAN'T PRACTICE IN THE YARD ANYMORE...
THA— THAT'S OK, YAN,
VERY SORRY, VERY SORRY !!!
TOTALLY

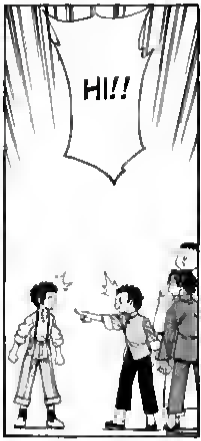


NOTES
SHOUNEN IN JAPANESE REFERS TO TEENAGE BOYS

FIND THEM!! KOU, GO WITH ME!!

HM? I AM SURE THIS IS THE HUTONG

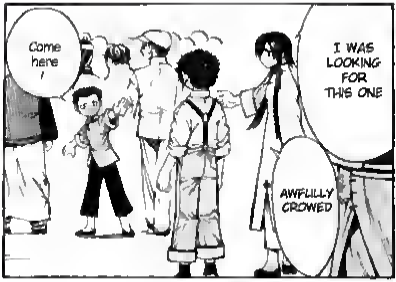
Excellent! You go with us
EH?


HI!!

SFX: DON
WHOA !!

Shit! Watch your steps!!
HUH?

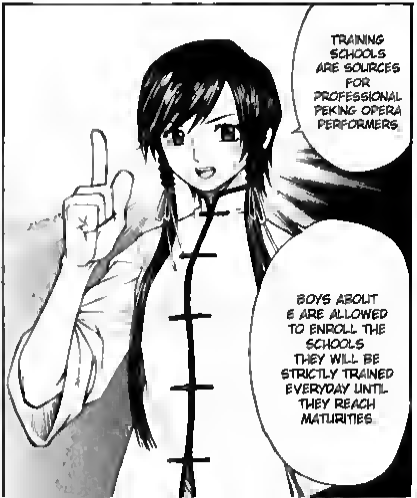
* In Chines


Come here !
I WAS LOOKING FOR THIS ONE
AWFULLY CROWED

WHAT A COINCIDENCE !

A TRAINING SCHOOL?
THE KIDS FROM A TRAINING SCHOOL ARE ABOUT TO ENGAGE A FREE PERFORMANCE

AH, IT IS A DREAM PLACE WHERE I CAN PRACTICE PEKING OPERA WITH MANY FRIENDS !


TRAINING SCHOOLS ARE SOURCES FOR PROFESSIONAL PEKING OPERA PERFORMERS.
BOYS ABOUT 6 ARE ALLOWED TO ENROLL THE SCHOOLS THEY WILL BE STRICTLY TRAINED EVERYDAY UNTIL THEY REACH MATURITIES.

IT IS EASY TO SAY IT, BUT IN FACT ...
What are you doing? Come quickly!
I AM COMING!!
DA
DA
SFX: TAN TAN
WHOA ...
SFX: TAN

SFX: TA TAN TAN TAN

SFX: TA TAN TAN TAN

SFX TA TAN!

WELL...

AREN'T THOSE KIDS WONDERFUL?

Comparing from us, a bunch of Shimi, it is like sky and ground!

They are trained. They are really different!

PACHI

PACHI

PACHI

PACHI

PACHI

PACHI

BRAVO!

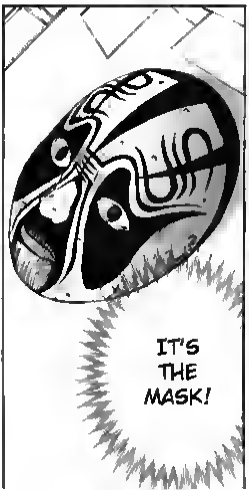
BRAVO!

THERE IS A PERIOD WHEN BOY'S VOICES WILL CHANGE
TO PEKING OPERAS, BESIDES ACTING, SINGING AND RECITING ARE ALSO IMPORTANT
THERE ARE MANY EXAMPLES OF CAREER LOSS DUE TO LOSING BEAUTIFUL VOICES
THERE'LL ONLY BE A FEW OF THEM LEFT IN THE END
JII-CHAN SAID THE SAME THING
WHETHER A PERFORMER CAN STAND ON STAGE DEPENDS ON A PERSON'S GENETIC CONDITIONS, TALENTS AND HARD WORKING
JII-CHAN MIGHT BE IN A TRAINING SCHOOL ...
IF TODAY WERE A DAY IN YEAR 1923, JII-CHAN WOULD BE ABOUT THE SAME AGE ...

NOTES
OJOU-SAMA REFERS TO "MISS"

A JAPANESE BOY?
MEI LANFANG-SENSE! ASKED TO LOOK AFTER HIM
HE IS A JAPANESE BOY
TATSUAKI SAMA?
HE'S A GUEST WHO CAME IN THREE DAYS AGO
SOMEHOW, HE WENT OUT BY HIMSELF

KATA
WHAT A SURPRISE!


IT'S THE MASK!

HIS NAME IS TATSUAKI!!

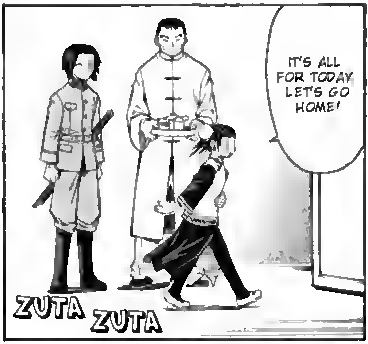
I AM SURE IT IS THE MASK HELD BY THAT BOY
WHOA, GOODY!!

I DON'T REALLY KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT.
I SEE

.....

FUJIMIYA

OOPS
SO EASILY GAVE IT UP!?
IS THERE ANY HIDDEN PURPOSE?
MIKO

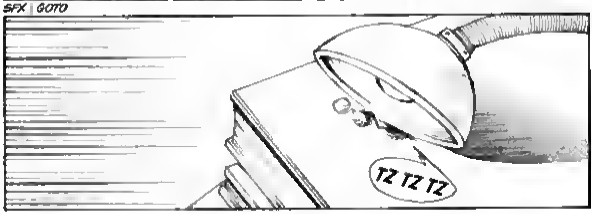

IT'S ALL FOR TODAY. LET'S GO HOME!
ZUTA
ZUTA

TSUBAKI OJOU-SAMA, I AM KIDDING!
DOTA
DOTA
DOTA
FUJIMIYA, ARE YOU GUESSING ME?

NOWADAYS, THEY ARE EVEN MORE ARROGANT THAN EVER!

HM! JAPANESE!

THE WINDOW REPAIRER IS HERE
OKAY, I'LL SEE HIM
KATAN
SFX | GOTO


TZ TZ TZ

I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU!
YUAN!

TATSUAKI!

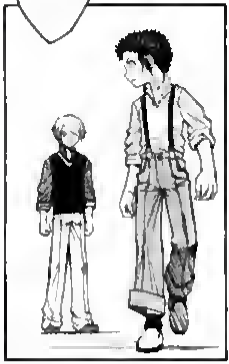
IF YOU WERE NOT IN FRONT OF MY EYES, I WOULD THINK YOUR EXISTING WAS A DAYDREAM
HUH?

YEAAA
I CAN GO BACK TO JI-CHAN'S PLACE!!

GREAT!!
MOMENTS AGO, MY CONTACT IN THE JAPANESE EMBASSY REPORTED THE TATSUAKI'S INFORMATION IN JAPAN

LET'S STEP ASIDE.

TATSUAKI !



I'LL TELL THE ENCOUNTERS WITH MEI-SAN !
ALSO I CAN TALK ABOUT WATCHING PEKING OPERA, MEETING FRIENDS AND MANY OTHER THINGS!!

IN TOKYO, YOUR NAME
"IZUMI TATSUAKI" IS NOT REGISTERED

YOU DON'T EXIST IN THIS WORLD !

WHAT ...

I AM, IZUMI TATSUAKI IS

SFX: DA

HERE, RIGHT HERE ...

I WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT EITHER

THE ONLY WAY TO PROVE THE TRUTH IS THROUGH THE MASK

THE MASK !!

RIGHT

TATSUAKI RECEIVED THE KOUJI MASK FROM THE JII-CHAN.

IF THE MASK PASSED AN EXAMINATION, TATSUAKI'S WORDS WILL DEFINITELY BE PROVED AS TRUE...

HOLD!! NOW, I AM BUSY...

IT'S ABOUT THE STUDY...

YUAN-SAMA!!

THE MASK IS NOW IN MY STUDY...

SFX : TATZ TATZ TATZ

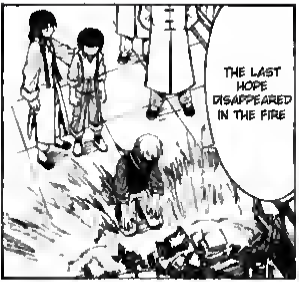
YUAN-SAMA'S STUDY!!

SFX : TA

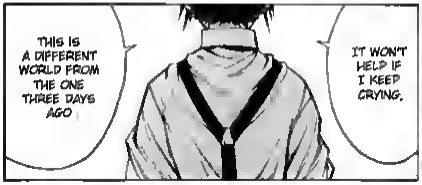
ゴオオオオ

SFX HU U U U

IT'S OK, YUAN.


THE LAST HOPE DISAPPEARED IN THE FIRE

I AM INEXCUSABLE, TATSUAKI


THIS IS A DIFFERENT WORLD FROM THE ONE THREE DAYS AGO
IT WON'T HELP IF I KEEP CRYING.

BECAUSE THIS IS 1923'S CHINA.
JII-CHAN SURELY EXISTS AMONG FUTURE PEKING OPERA PERFORMERS IN THIS WORLD!

I WON'T GIVE UP AT ALL!
GUTS!

I WANT TO BE A PEKING OPERA PERFORMER ANYWAY. I'LL SEEK FOR JII-CHAN IN THIS WORLD !!

AH, MEI-SENSEI, IT'S JUST PERFECT !
HI, YUAN, I DIDN'T MEAN TO BUDGE IN
I HAVE A LITTLE SPARE TIME AND COME TO SEE YOU.
YUAN-SAMA, MEI-SENSEI CAME TO VISIT.
MEI-SENSEI?
A FAVOR?
IS ANYTHING WE TALKED ABOUT BEFORE?
I LIKE TO ASK YOU FOR A BIG FAVOR
MEI-SAN
WHAT !?
DON'T TALK ANY NONSENSE OR UNREASONABLE STUFF !!
NO, NOT MINE. IT IS ABOUT TATSUAKI !

PLEASE ACCEPT ME AS YOUR STUDENT!!

the story of beijing opera

うえだ ひろし
上田 宏
UEDA HIROSHI

To be Continued

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Intermission Play Two

幕間戲二

● ABOUT MEI LANFANG

THE BEIJING OPERA "FAREWELL MY CONCUBINE", A STORY ABOUT THE WAR BETWEEN HAN AND CHU, WAS FIRST PERFORMED IN 1921. THE OPERA WAS A COLLABORATION OF MEI LANFANG AND QI RUSHANG WHO WAS A PLAY COMMENTATOR. THE FAMOUS SCENE OF GUIKI'S "SWORD DANCE" WAS CHOREOGRAPHED AND PERFORMED BY MEI LANFANG

MEI LANFAN (1894-1961) WAS BORN IN A FAMILY OF PEKING OPERA PERFORMERS. HIS FATHER AND GRANDFATHER WERE SAID AS PEKING OPERA PERFORMERS. MEI WAS AN INVENTIVE PERFORMER. SINCE 1919, MEI CAME TO JAPAN THREE TIMES FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS, AND BEING HIGHLY PRAISED EVERYWHERE. HIS INFLUENCE HAS BEEN LASTED UNTIL TODAY. "MEI STYLE" IS STILL VERY ACTIVE AMONG BEIJING OPERA PERFORMERS

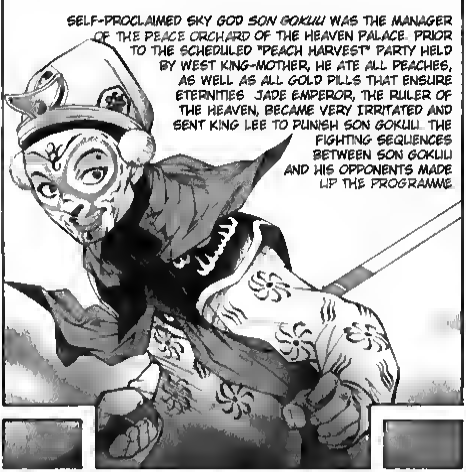
ACT FOUR

A New Life is Beginning

❖ PROGRAMME INTRODUCTION

PLAY IN HEAVEN PALACE

SELF-PROCLAIMED SKY GOD SON GOKUU WAS THE MANAGER OF THE PEACE ORCHARD OF THE HEAVEN PALACE. PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED "PEACH HARVEST" PARTY HELD BY WEST KING-MOTHER, HE ATE ALL PEACHES, AS WELL AS ALL GOLD PILLS THAT ENSURE ETERNITIES. JADE EMPEROR, THE RULER OF THE HEAVEN, BECAME VERY IRRITATED AND SENT KING LEE TO PUNISH SON GOKUU. THE FIGHTING SEQUENCES BETWEEN SON GOKUU AND HIS OPPONENTS MADE UP THE PROGRAMME.



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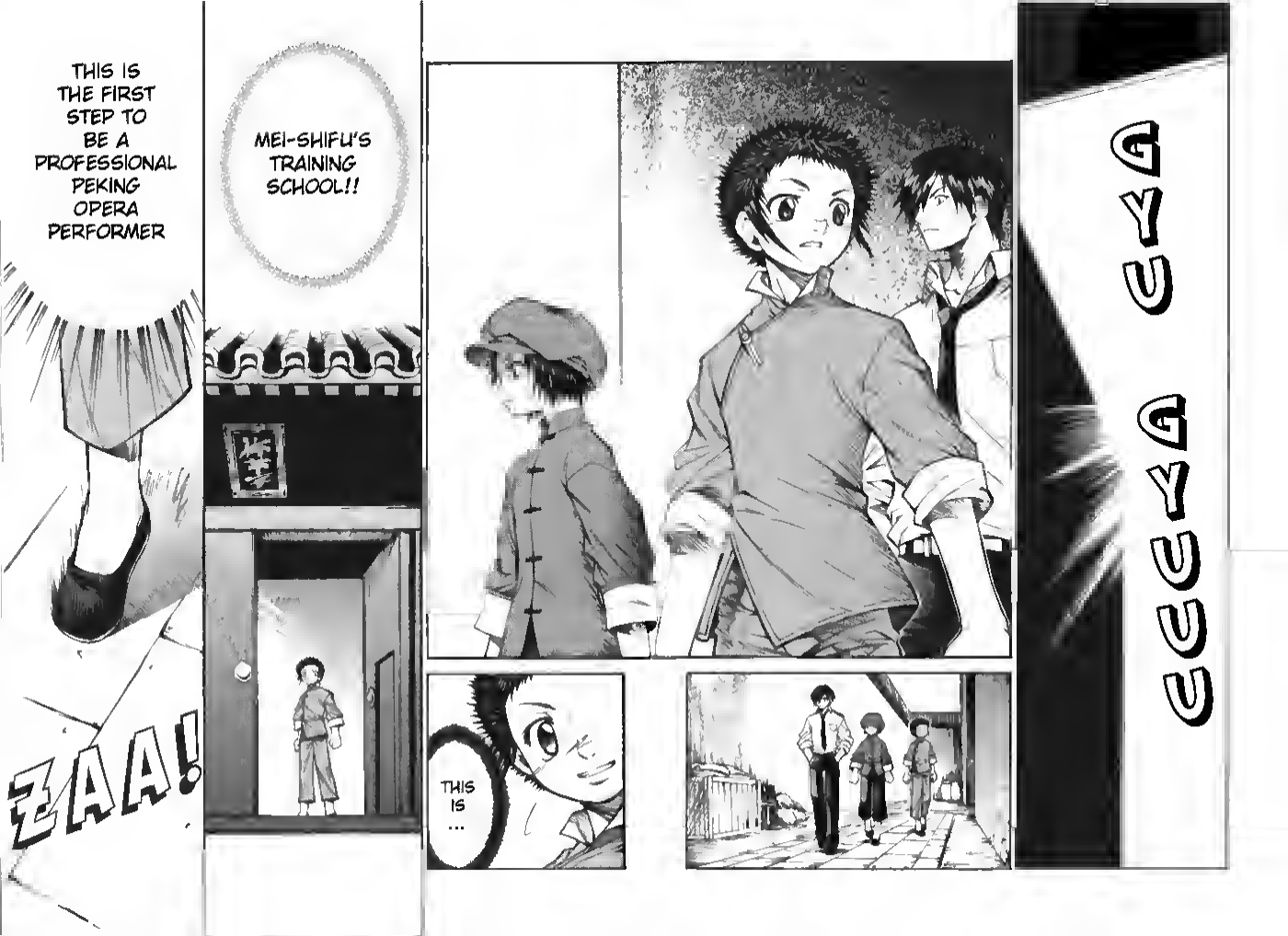
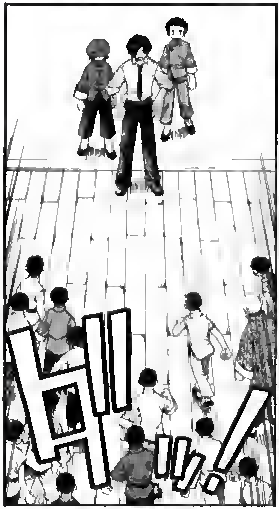

THIS IS THE FIRST STEP TO BE A PROFESSIONAL PEKING OPERA PERFORMER
ZAA!
MEI-SHIFU'S TRAINING SCHOOL!!
THIS IS ...
GYU
GYUUU

オオオオオオ
PA PA PA PA PA PA

DON'T STOP. FOLLOW UP QUICKLY

START PRACTICING TOGETHER WITH THESE KIDS
FROM TODAY ON, I WILL ...



EXCELLENT!!

ZAWA
ZAWA
ZAWA
This is a new member. His name is Izumi Tatsuaki
WHAT THAT HONGLAN GUY SAID ...
LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE IS WELCOMING ME!!

ARE YOU AN IDIOT?
TWO DAYS AGO
AH HA HA HA !
A LITTLE OF KUNGFU YOU HAVE IS NOT ENOUGH
GUZ
GUZ
JEEZ ...
BESIDES NO JAPANESE IS ALLOWED TO BE A MEI-SHIFU'S APPRENTICE DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT !!
THAT'S OK
EH?

WELL DONE TATSU-AKI!
MEI-SHIFU!! ARE YOU OKAY?
FROM NOW ON, TATSUAKI WILL BE MY APPRENTICE!
YES!!
.....

JEEZ
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER I DISAGREE
IN FACT ...
YOU DISAGREE WITH MY DECISION?
... NO ...

OTHERS WILL AGREE WITH NOTHING!!

LOOK EVERYBODY IS SMILING AND WELCOMING ME!!

IT MIGHT BE BETTER IF YOU KNEW A LITTLE BIT OF CHINESE
WELL, HONGLAN AND I WILL EXCUSE OURSELVES FOR NOW
PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE REST
SFX: PON
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

ME TOO ...
GA

Okay!
All of you, leave and practice!
DA
DA
DA
DA
DA
DA
DA

HUH?
TATSUAKI, TODAY IS ONLY FOR INTRODUCTION YOUR DAYS WILL START TOMORROW

HEH

UM, I AM GLAD THAT MY DAYS ARE BEGINNING BUT, I REALLY WANT

!!

PA
CHA!

TO START WITH EVERYBODY RIGHT NOW

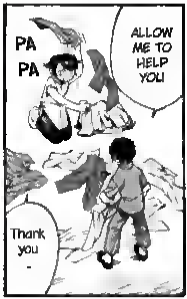
BA BA BA
I'll be yelled again
Hurry! Hurry!

BAN!
AH !!!

It hurts ...

Who are you?

BATS
Well
I am sorry


PA PA
ALLOW ME TO HELP YOU
Thank you

Oops!
PIKU
ANGRY
Chunhua! You made another mistake!

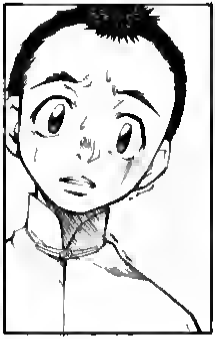
DON'T BE UPSET, SENSEI! I WAS THE ONE WHO RAN INTO HER!

WHO IS IT?
TA
TA
I AM TATSUAKI. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
HI, TATSUAKI-KUN
?
I AM YINDE
I WANT TO LEARN CHINESE FROM HONGLAN I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE WENT
HONG LAN?
Tatsuaki-kun will start his training from today on
SHE IS A SERVANT OF EVERYBODY
HER NAME IS CHUN HUA
Great
YEAAA, SUPER!! YOU CAN SPEAK JAPANESE!!

HE IS THE MOST HOPEFUL ONE FROM THIS SCHOOL
HE DOES NOT PRACTICE WITH LIS
HE IS SUPERVISED DIRECTLY BY MEI-SHIFU

HONGLAN IS SPECIAL

PIKU



THAT'S WHY NOBODY LIKES HONGLAN

!!
OH

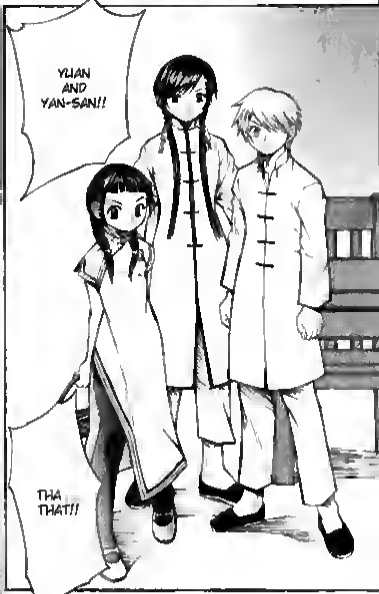
THAT'S OK

YINDE, THANK YOU!

FREAKY SMILE
HI, TATSUAKI

.....
!

THAT THEATER GIRL
MAKISHIMA TSUBAKI


YUAN AND YAN-SAN!!
THA THAT!!

BECAUSE MY INSTINCT TOLD ME SO
I KNEW IT!
I HEARD THAT YUAN-SAMA WAS GOING TO SEE A JAPANESE PEKING OPERA SHOUNEN I WANTED TO COME ALONG
WE ONLY MET ONCE I DIDN'T CATCH HIS NAME
HI, YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?
OH, YES!!
HERE WE GO THANKS
SURE WE CAN SEE EACH OTHER OFTEN
BUT, THAT MEANS I CANNOT SEE YOU AGAIN
I'VE THOUGHT TO RETURN IT TO YOU SINCE LAST TIME I ALWAYS KEPT IT WITH ME.

THIS IS ONLY A HANDKERCHIEF
HE DID NOT THROW IT AWAY AND KEPT IT FOR THE WHOLE TIME

I DID NOT EXPECT IT TO BE RETURNED
GYUN

RIGHT !!

THA ...
THANK YOU

WE DON'T KNOW IF HE'S JAPANESE OR CHINESE

AND, JII-CHAN'S NAME CANNOT BE "JII-CHAN"

IS THERE ANY NEWS FROM SEARCHING FOR JII-CHAN?
NO WE HAVEN'T FOUND ANYTHING BY NAME OR BY OTHER WAYS

JII-CHAN ALWAYS TALKED ABOUT MEI-SHIFU!

HE MUST BE ONE OF MEI-SHIFU'S STUDENTS!

PEKING OPERA IS CHINESE STUFF. THERE IS A LITTLE POSSIBILITY THAT HE IS JAPANESE.

THE MORE I THINK ABOUT, THE MORE BLURRING MY VISION BECOMES.

YOU KNOW WHAT!

UM ...

BESIDES ALL DIRECT APPRENTICES, IT'S COMMON THAT ANYBODY INFLUENCED CAN CLAIM HIS "SHIFU" WITHOUT PERMISSIONS

WHOLLY CRAP! TATSUAKI, YOU LITTLE GENIUS!!

YUAN SAMA

GATAN

IT WAS FROM TATSUAKI'S JII-CHAN. IT WAS EVEN SIGNED IN NEXT YEAR.

IN THIS CASE, IT DOES NOT EXIST. IT IS COMING, ISN'T IT?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT

TATSUAKI, YOU SEARCH INSIDE THE TRAINING SCHOOL. WE'LL SEARCH OUTSIDE

ROGER.

IF THAT MASK WERE STILL THERE

THAT MASK ?

THIS IS THE PERIOD WHEN ALL NECESSARY COLORS AND MATERIALS ARE COMING TOGETHER

RIGHT!

.....

IS THE IMAGE ON THAT MASK

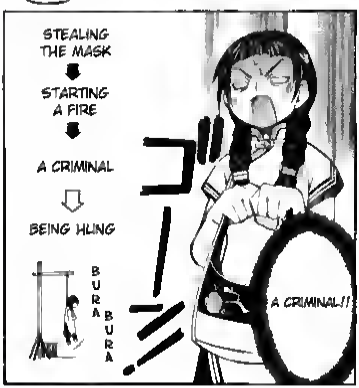
HAND PAINTED?

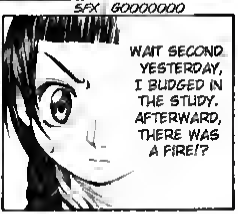
A NEW ONE JUST DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE SAME

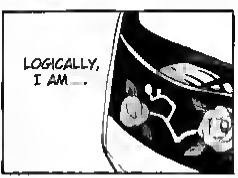
RELAX, TATSUAKI

BUT, WAS IT BURNT?
OK! IT IS TIME TO RETURN IT
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THEY ARE STILL TALKING ABOUT THE MASK
YESTERDAY, SOMEBODY STARTED A FIRE IN MY STUDY
HOW COULD IT BE BURNT?
BURNT?
OH HA HA HA HA
YESTER-DAY —?
PIKU

SFX: GOOOOOOO







SFX: GON!

!!!
SCARY!! SO SCARY!!
AH YAH!!
ZURU
DOSH
I MUST GO HOME, MUSTN'T I?
ARE YOU OK?
NOOOO!!
IT'S MINE!!
SFX BATS!
AH AH HAH HAH ...
NYUUU

NOTES
[Zai Jian] IN CHINESE MEANS "GOOD BYE"
"BYE, BYE" HERE IS LITERALLY IN ENGLISH IN KANA

I DECIDE THAT YOU SHOULD LIVE WITH OTHERS
IT IS HERE
I'LL SHOW YOU THE LIVING QUARTER
YES, SIR
AS THERE'LL BE A PRACTICE IN THE EARLY MORNING YOU SHOULD GO TO BED EARLY AT NIGHT
YES, SIR
ESPECIALLY, I GOT TO SLEEP TOGETHER WITH EVERYBODY TONIGHT!!
カッチ
FROM EARLY MORNING OF TOMORROW, NOTHING CAN BLOCK ME
WONDERFUL! FROM TOMORROW ON,
SIGA

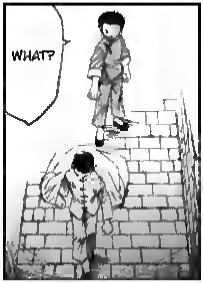
SFX: KACHA

BASH!
!!
HUH?
WHAT THE HECK
AH
IS THAT FUTON FOR ME?
FURA
FURA
THANKS ...
OH, HI, EVERYONE, I WAS TOLD IT WAS DECIDED THAT ...
YINDE IS NOT HERE I DON'T THINK THEY UNDERSTAND ME

WHO DID THIS!!

YIN DE!!

TATSUAKI


WHAT?

A NEW MEMBER GETS TO SLEEP ON THE GROUND!

WHAT ARE THESE GUYS TRYING!!
WHY ...

the story of beijing opera

うえだ　ひろし
上田　宏
UEDA HIROSHI

To be Continued

Fifay.net

幕間戯三

Intermission Play Three

● ABOUT "KA HAN"

FROM 1900 - 1940, THERE WERE MANY TRAINING SCHOOLS OF PEKING OPERA CALLED "KA HAN". THE SCHOOLS WERE ALSO AS PERFORMING TROUPES OF YOUNGSTERS. THESE SCHOOLS WERE VERY ACTIVE IN 1920'S IN 1950'S, ALL THESE SCHOOLS WERE ACQUIRED BY THE STATE. THEY BECAME SONAMED "XYZ COLLEGE FOR PERFORMING ARTS".

AT THE TIME, A PEKING OPERA PERFORMER WAS A PRESTIGIOUS OCCUPATION. THEREFORE, THE REQUIREMENTS TO THE PERFORMERS ARE STRICT. ACTIONS IN PEKING OPERA REQUIRED A VERY FLEXIBLE BODY. THE FLEXIBILITY ONLY COULD BE TRAINED AND FORMED WHEN ONE WAS VERY YOUNG. FOR THIS REASON, MOST OF TRAINEES ENROLLED "KA HAN" WERE 6 OR 7 YEARS OLD.

WHEN A PERSON WAS ACCEPTED, HE WAS RESTRICTED IN "KA HAN". HE HAD TO LIVE IN DORMITORIES FOR NORMALLY 7 TO 10 YEARS WITHOUT LEAVING. THE TRAININGS TOOK PLACE FROM MORNING TO MIDNIGHT. THERE WERE MANY SEVERE RULES ON DAILY LIFE. THIS WAS COMMONLY CALLED "SEVEN YEARS IN JAIL".

Ka Han

"Ka Han' were the training schools of Peking Opera and the young performing troupes of young people

A professional Peking Opera performer required seven to ten years of training

ACT FIVE: *The First Step*

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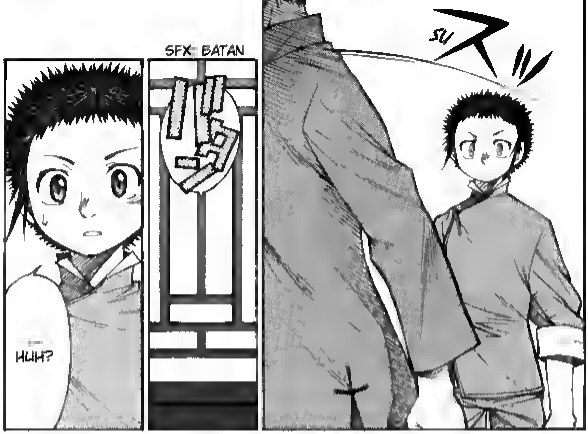
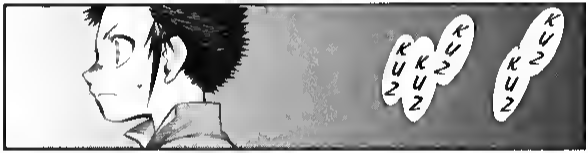
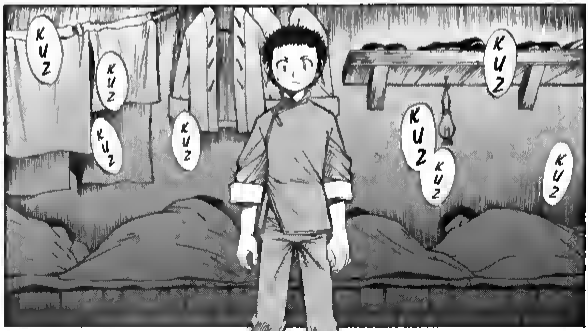
*speaking in Chinese


SFX: BATAN
SU
HUH?


KUZ
KUZ
KUZ
KUZ
KUZ
KUZ

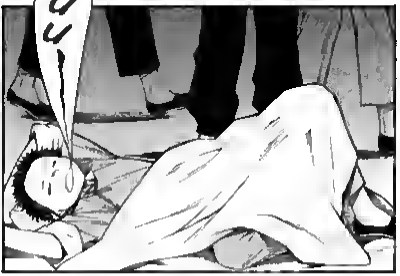

KUZ
KUZ
KUZ
KUZ
KUZ
KUZ
KUZ
KUZ

WHAT WAS THAT FOR, THESE GUYS?

SFX BAZZ

SHIT!
GEEZ

6:00 AM
–
RISE


GUU

OK, LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE IS HERE

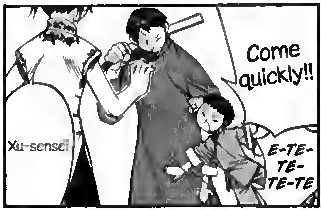
XU-SENSEI, THE GUY IS STILL IN BED
WHAT !!

EH?
WHERE IS TATSUAKI?

UM MOO MOO ....

WHERE IS EVERYONE?
キョロキョロ
You overslept on the first day? Do you still want to stay?

Get up!!
ヒリカ
WA!!


Come quickly!!
Xu-sensei
E-TE-TE-TE-TE

Is that so? OK, Chun Hua, he is yours.
GOOD MORNING CHUN HUA.

Cheng-sensei asked for Tatsuaki ..

VERY WELL. WILL YOU CONTINUE YOUR TRAINING HERE FROM TODAY ON AS MEI-SENSEI'S HAS INSTRUCTED?

YES, CHENG-SENSEI

THEN, YOU MUST COOPERATE WITH OTHER STUDENTS FROM NOW ON.

START IT RIGHT NOW.

HI, HONG LAN!!

I have brought Tatsuaki here.

I am coming in.

SFX: GACHA

HONG LAN WILL YOU PRACTICE HERE TODAY?
DON'T INTERFERE WITH OTHER PEOPLE'S BUSINESS
スタ-スタ'スタスタスタ
EH?
SFX TZTA
BATAN
TATSUAKI COME
LET ME SEE YOUR THUMB
O... KAY
CHEE
IT HURTS !!
IT HURTS !!
DONE

ピッ!
THIS MARK IN BLOOD INDICATES THAT IZUMI TATSUAKI HAS AGREED TO DEVOTE HIMSELF TO THIS TRAINING SCHOOL- "BAIKATEI".
WHAT IS IT?
IT IS ABOUT YOUR TRAINING AND LIVING.
NORMALLY, WE ASK PARENTS TO SIGN CONTRACTS.
IN YOUR CASE, YUAN-DONO'S BACKUP WILL BE SUFFICIENT
WHAT?
YUAN IS BACKING ME UP!?
THAT IS ALL FOR TODAY.
TATSUAKI, YOU CAN GO NOW.
COOL. I'LL WORK AS HARD AS I CAN!!

YOU KNOW THAT YOU JUST SIGNED A DEATH CONTRACT

The term of study is the length of ten years. During this period, if there is a death caused by a disaster, an illness, or being abandoned by teachers due to disownership or other unpredictable reasons, the school does not accept complaints.

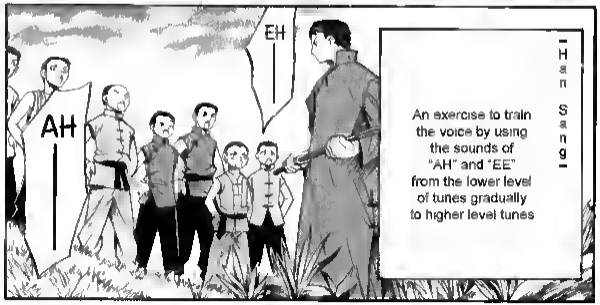
If the student disobeys the orders of teachers or trainers, he will be physically punished. The school is not responsible for any deaths caused by these punishments. If a student resigns from his training programs prior to his full term, he must return all expenses that have been pre-paid by the school. This is a condition acknowledged by both sides.

LET ME TELL YOU WHAT IS ON THE CONTRACT.

.... A DEATH CONTRACT ?

DOES YUAN KNOW THOSE CONTENTS?
TRAINING AND ... DEATH?
OF COURSE, HE DOES
SO MANY SCHOOLS, SO MANY PEOPLE SOME PEOPLE SUCCEED, SOME DO NOT...
AND DEATHS ARE NOT UNHEARD OF...

AH
AH
AH
EE
EE


AH
EH
Han Sang!
An exercise to train the voice by using the sounds of "AH" and "EE" from the lower level of tunes gradually to higher level tunes

NOW... WHAT ...?
I SEE THEY'RE DOING "HANSANG"
HA
HA

AS A JAPANESE, YOU DON'T HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE IN PEKING OPERA.
YOU STILL HAVE A CHANCE TO QUIT, YOU SHOULD TAKE IT.

OTHERWISE, IF YOU BELIEVE YOU CAN MAKE IT, FOLLOW ME.

YUAN READ THE CONTRACT AND SIGNED IT.
REGARDLESS, HE WILL NOT ALLOW ME TO DIE
SU... SURE

7:00 AM
-
Breakfast
There's plenty. Please don't be afraid to ask for seconds.
Everyone eat as much as you want.
AH. LOOKS GOOD ...
I DIDN'T HAVE SUPPER LAST NIGHT. I AM SO, SO, SO HUNGRY.

EH
. . . .
!!
NO BREAKFAST THIS IS YOUR PUNISHMENT, FOR NOT WAKING UP ON TIME THIS MORNING

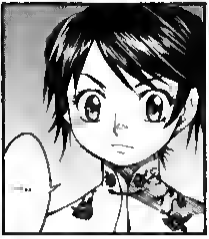
SFX. PAN

UUMM
~GULOLOLO

SFX. PON

HEH
HEH
HEH

OOPS !!
HUH?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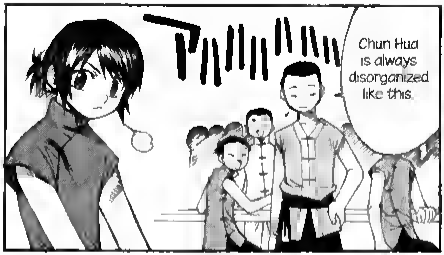
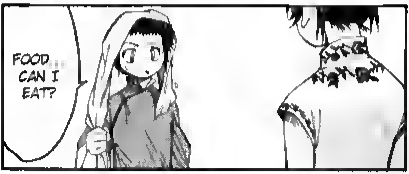

Chun Hua is always disorganized like this.

Gosh, Tastuak! has to dry himself now.
SFX. TSZTA

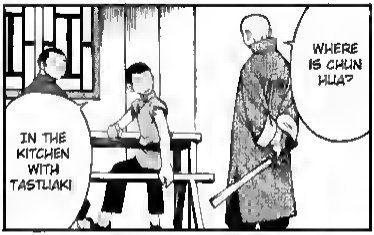
STOP
FLITZ
FLITZ
FLITZ

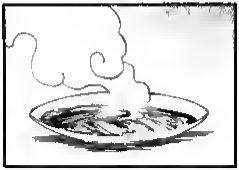
FFF...

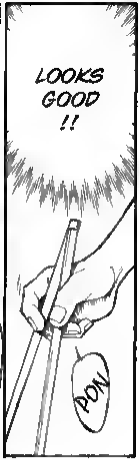
KLACK


FOOD CAN I EAT?

SFX: TA TA TA TA



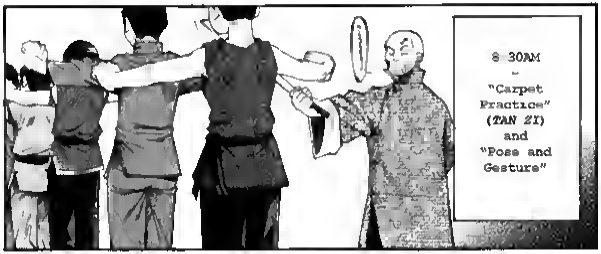




OK, CHENG-SENSEI, RIGHT AWAY
HUH?

SFX GEE
CHUN HUA, PLEASE PREPARE TEA.

OK LET'S SAY, IT'S ALL PART OF TRAINING!!
GALLO


8:30AM
"Carpet Practice" (TAN ZI) and "Pose and Gesture"

"Carpet Practice"
–
It includes
"standing on hands"
and
"bending backward"
etc –
This is
acrobatic
training
The practice
takes place
on carpets,
rugs or mats
Therefore,
it is called
"Carpet Practice"
"Pose and Gesture"
–
It includes
the training
on how to strike
hands and feet,
how to pose
and how to
use different
weapons
わくわく
SO EXCITING..
I HAVEN'T
BEEN IN
TRAINING
LIKE THIS
BEFORE
OK..
I'LL
START!!

PON
TATSUAKI YOU WILL RECEIVE SPECIAL TRAINING.
SPECIAL ?
YES, I AM GOING TO START MY OWN SPECIAL TRAINING!!
THERE.
THIS IS MUSCLE STRETCHING TRAINING.
WHAT THE HECK!
I HAVE A BAD FEELING.
SFX: FUUUN

I almost tried to escape when they put another block down
Yeah! It's not easy!
I was forced to start with that thing when I enrolled.
YAAAA!!
YOU'LL BE ACCUSTOMED TO IT.

NO BIG DEAL !!
GOOD, SO FAR SO GOOD DON'T TRY TO CLOSE YOUR LEGS YOU'LL BE PUNISHED IF YOU DO SO
EVERYONE ELSE LOOKS LIKE THEIR HAVING FUN.

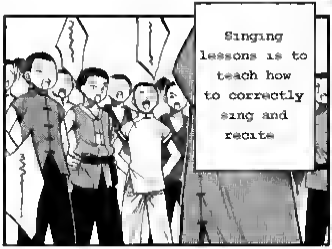
EVEN! AMONG ALL THESE PEOPLE, HE CAN STILL SOMEHOW STANDOUT.
WHO LOOK AT HONG LAN. HE REALLY IS SOMETHING.

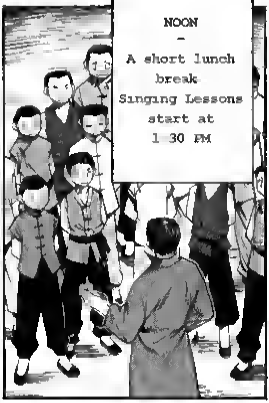
EVEN THOUGH THERE'S NO OPPONENT HE USES THE SWORDS SO SERIOUSLY.
COOL... SO COOL!

TATSUAKI, IT SEEMS THAT YOU ARE DOING WELL.
EH? HE, HE..
I AM OK.

ソ☆☆☆!!

TO AWARD YOUR PERFORMANCE, LET ME ADD ONE MORE BRICK.
KON


Singing lessons is to teach how to correctly sing and recite


NOON
A short lunch break
Singing Lessons start at 1:30 PM

HONG LAN.

EH!!
DON'T COMPLAIN
CHENG-SENSEI ASKED ME TO PASS WORDS TO YOU...

I CAN'T RELY ON YINDE...
HEY, TATSUAKI!!

THE AFTERNOON SINGING LESSONS...
JII-CHAN NEVER TAUGHT ME HOW TO SING
AND, I DON'T UNDERSTAND CHINESE

I WON'T COMPLAIN I'M SO EXCITED!!
HOW CAN I PUT THIS?
STOP COMPLA-INING...

YINDE? OH, THAT GUY?
WELL, HE DID LEARN SOME JAPANESE.
LIM, YESTERDAY, YINDE TAUGHT ME A FEW WORDS AND I CAN'T RELY ON HIM ONLY...
DO YOU STILL NOT UNDERSTAND EVEN A BIT OF WHAT THEY SAY?

SHI LONG...
WHO IS THAT GUY NEXT TO YINDE?
YOU MEAN SHI LONG?
HE'S THE MOST STUPID GUY AROUND, HE'S GOT A BRAIN LIKE AN APE. HE DOESN'T DO ANYTHING BUT MAKE TROUBLE.

"BA ZI" REFERS TO A FIGHTING SEQUENCE WITH WEAPONS

BUT, I'M STILL NOT CONFIDENT IN USING SWORDS LIKE HONG LAN!!

DID YOU FORGET "DA CHU SHOU" IN "TALE OF A WHITE SNAKE"? YOU WATCHED IT WITH YUAN-SAMA IN THE SOUTH SEA THEATER. YOU GOT SO EXCITED.

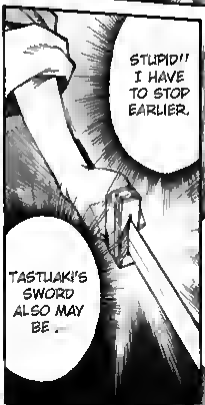
A!!!!!

DON'T HESITATE. ACT FAST TO AVOID INJURIES !!

!!

ヒュン
ヒュン
ヒュン

KATA
KATA
THE SWORD'S HANDLE IS SO LOOSE THAT IT'S LEAVING THE BODY.


STUPID!! I HAVE TO STOP EARLIER.
TASTUAKI'S SWORD ALSO MAY BE...

THAT GUY!!
ニヤ

IT'S IMPOSSI-BLE

I AM SURE THIS IS HOW HONG LAN PLAYED THE SWORDS THIS MORNING!!
HERE WE GO!!
ONE HAS TO MOVE ONE'S BODY NATURALLY !!
KATA
KATA
FANTASTIC !!
IT'S DANGEROUS !!

BROVA !!
hm!
WHAT? CAN WE PLAY SOME MORE?
OK. THAT IS ALL FOR TODAY.
This is very exciting, Tatsuaki!!
PACHI
PACHI
PACHI
PACHI
PACHI
Shi Long!
When you do these kind of meaningless things,
KATA KATA
You didn't think that someday you would be caught by someone?

BUT, I CAN'T TOLERATE THAT BRAT I AM GOING TO CONTINUE MY MISSION!!

あとがき

THANK YOU FOR PURCHASING THE FIRST VOLUME OF "BUSHIN GIKYOKU" ("THE STORY OF BEIJING OPERA")! PLEASE ADVISE ME WHEN YOU FINISH THE READING (OPEN FOR SUGGESTIONS!)

TO TELL A STORY ABOUT BEIJING OPERA WAS A COMPLETE SURPRISE. THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF ME PROVIDED SEVERAL TOPICS. ALL WERE REJECTED. THEN, SOMEONE SUGGESTED THAT WE SHOULD TRY "NEW IDEAS". THEREFORE, WE STARTED A LITTLE OF UNCONVENTIONAL STORY. IT SUCCEEDED AS A SERIES ON THE MAGAZINE!

HOWEVER, I LACKED THE KNOWLEDGE OF BEIJING OPERA, BUT I BADLY NEEDED MORE THAN WHAT MOST OF PEOPLE COULD HAVE MAKE UP THE STORY RIGHT NOW. I HAVE COLLECTED SOME LIMITED MATERIALS AS SUPPLIES IN ORDER TO MEET THE MONTHLY DEADLINES.

PEOPLE AROUND HAVE SUPPORTED ME VARIETY OF MATERIALS AND IDEAS. THE STORY IS A COLLABORATION OF MANY PEOPLE. I AM VERY GRATEFUL (BOW). THERE IS NOT A GREAT NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN JAPAN WHO KNOW BEIJING OPERA. I HOPE MY BOOK WILL BRING BROADER INTERESTS.

THAT IS ALL I WANT TO SAY FOR NOW.
I HOPE YOU WILL ENJOY THE SECOND VOLUME ON TATSUAKI'S TRAINING LIFE!

YOURS TRULY,

上田 宏
UEDA HIROSHI

the story of beijing opera

うえだ　ひろし
上田　宏
UEDA HIROSHI

To be Continued

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